is very much interested in it. I can assure that it will be taken over. In the public interest I will not disclose the details, I request my friend to have little more patience when things will improve.

SRI M M. KHARGE :—Moy I know whether the Govt, is going too far to help or whether all the sick mills will be handed over to the National Textile Corporation ?

SRI AZEET SAIT :—That is also before the Government. It is on the lines of Tamilnadu State. I have thought of some arrangement Ultimately, the State Govt, will take over.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND YOU THE SERVICES

re : Resignation of the Chief Engineer, K. E. B.

SRI K.H. SRINIVAS(Minister for Information and Youth Services).—Sir, under the provision of Rule 293, I would like to offer my personal explanation in respect of certain utterances made by C.M Ibrahim on 23 1-1979. On 23-1-1979, hon. Member Sri C M Ibrahim sought you permission to raise a matter which was not given. But inspite of that, just before he staged a walk out he uttered few sentences which unfortunately contains serious allegations and it is very necessary for me to clarify the position. It reads like this : ಒಬ್ಬ ನಿಷ್ಠಾವಂತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ರಾಜೀನಾಮೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ ಎಸ್. ಶರೀಫ್ ಎನ್ನುವ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ 31 ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇವೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಕಡೆಗಾಣಿಸಿ ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳವರು ಆ ನಿಷ್ಠಾವಂತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗೆ ರಾಜೀನಾಮೆ ಕೊಡುವಂತೆ ಒತ್ತಾಯಪಡಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಈ ವಿಷಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಚರ್ಚೆ ಮಾಡಲು ನನಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಕೊಡಬೇಕು ಆ ನಂತರ ಅವರು ಚರ್ಚೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಅವಕಾಶ ಕೊಡಲಿಲ್ಲ ವೆಂದು ಸಭಾತ್ಯಾಗ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

This is with reference to a long leave availed by Sri Shariff who happened to be the Technical member of the State Electricity Board. Mr. Sheriff had been the Chief Engineer, and the Chief Engineer (General) in the Electricity Board and he was retired some time back. He was nominated by the State Government as a Technical Member of the State Electricity Board.

He continues to be Technical Member of the State Electricity Board. He has only availed leave. In fact, I was thinking that I would give my explanation sometime afterwards but in the meanwhile on 25-1-1979 I got a telephone call from Mr. Sheriff. He was very much perturbed about the statement made by Sri Ibrahim and

he wanted clarification to be made in the matter. Thereafter, confirming what he told me on the phone, he wrote me a letter which is as follows :

> "There is a news item in the DECCAN HERALD dated 24th instant that Sri C. M. Ibrahim MLA mentioned on the floor of the House that I am under pressure to tender my resignation to the post of the Technical Member of the Karnataka Electricity Board. I have to deny that there is any pressure upon me from any quarter to tender resignation to the post of the Technical Member. Of course, I am on long leave from 15th instant for reasons which I have personally explained to you. This is in continuation of my telephone talk with you this morning and I confirm having informed you as above."

He requested me to clarify the matter and I make it very clear to this August House that Government has nothing to do whatsoever. It is only some reasons which are very personal to him that have compelled him to avail leave. He has not been asked to resign nor was he forced to resign. It was most uncharitable on the part of the hon, member Sri C. M. Ibrahim and it is not benfitting a member of the House to make such allegations without any basis whatsoever. Even Mr. Sheriff has not told him and none else seems to have prompted Mr. Ibrahim. It is not only unfair to the Government but also to Mr. Sheriff and he has tried to be more loyal than the King unnecessarily. Under Rule 288 sub-rule 2, a member while speaking, shall not make a personal charge against a member, and these utterances which have gone into the record of the proceedings of the House have unfortunataly transgressed the limitations which are set out under this rule and as such I appeal to your wisdom to consider expunging these sentences which gone in to the record.

Karnataka Preservation of foragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill, 1979 (introduction).

SRI B. BASAVALINGAPPA (Minister for Revenue).—Sir, I beg to move

"That leave be granted to introduce the Karnataka Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings (Amendment) Bill, 1979"